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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Tsuyoshi Saito et al.

Serial No.: 09/901,577



Group Art Unit: 2132

Filed: July 11, 2001

Examiner: Ungar, Daniel M.

For: SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING APPARATUS, REMOTE CONTROL SYSTEM THEREFOR, AND REMOTE OPERATION DEVICE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Sir:

In response to the requirement that a statement of the substance of an interview be placed in the record, Applicant hereby submits the following.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges Examiner Ungar and his supervisor, Examiner Gilberto Barron, for taking time from their busy schedules to conduct a personal interview on May 12, 2005, for the above-referenced Application. The interview was courteous and professional, and it is believed by Applicants' representatives that prosecution has been advanced because of this interview.

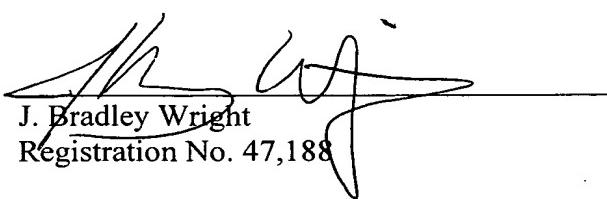
Concerning the substance of the interview, Applicants' representatives presented a summary of the present invention as providing a system for remote operation of semiconductor manufacturing devices that allows an operator of a remote operation device to view the same screen or display as that seen by an operator of a host device. This benefit is achieved by the remote operation device accessing the host device and simultaneously displaying the same screen as that displayed by the host device.

A benefit of the present invention is that it readily enables trouble shooting and demonstrations/training due to the fact that both parties are viewing identical screens. In this manner, for example, a technician from the supplier of a manufacturing apparatus can view exactly what the operator is viewing on the host device and proceed appropriately. Further, by having the same screen displayed on both devices, communication between the parties is greatly facilitated.

Applicants' representative also presented the differences between the claimed invention and the cited prior art, particularly the Tonozuka reference. It was noted that similar information is shared between host and remote devices, in Tonozuka. However, Applicants' representatives submitted that similar information does not teach the "same screen," as claimed in the present invention. Applicants' representatives noted the size differential of the various displays in Tonozuka and stressed that similar information may be presented in many forms. The present invention, on the other hand, displays the same screen to both operators.

The Examiners indicated their appreciation of this summary and indicated they would consider Applicants' response in view of the discussion.

5/13/05
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